

TOBYHANNA REPORTER

Permit No. 50
First Class
U.S. Postage Paid
Tobyhanna, PA 18466

VOL. 51, No. 4

TOBYHANNA ARMY DEPOT, TOBYHANNA, PA.

(WWW.TOBYHANNA.ARMY.MIL)

FEBRUARY 22, 2007

NEWS NOTES

Chapel conducts services

The depot conducts non-denominational services every Sunday at 11 a.m. Communion is offered on the first Sunday of the month. The fellowship hour and potluck luncheon follow the service on the last Sunday of the month.

There will be an open house April 8 with a luncheon following Easter Sunday services.

The chapel is also looking for an organist or pianist.

For more information, call X59689.

Blood drive date changes

The March 7 blood drive is cancelled and the March 21 blood drive is rescheduled for March 28.

Dinner benefits memorial

The Tobyhanna Veterans Council will host a spaghetti dinner-dance from 7-11 p.m., March 31, at Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 283, 737 Wyoming Avenue, Kingston.

Tickets cost \$10 with proceeds going towards the POW-MIA memorial. Dedication of the memorial will be held in May.

For details, call Jack Bravyak, X57362, or Caroline Jurosky, X56789.

Travel fair to be held in May

There will be a travel fair May 10 from 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m. in Building 1A.

A variety of vendors will represent hotels, historical farms, whitewater rafters, amusement parks and family fun parks.

For details, call Jackie Vass, X57584.

Hunting course set for July

There will be a free hunter education course July 27 from 5:45-9 p.m., and July 28 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The course will be held at the Mack Fitness and Recreation Center. To pass, students must be 12 or older and attend both days. Seating is limited and advance registration is required. Adults are encouraged to attend with children.

To register, call X57583, or X58851. For details, call Jackie Vass, X57584.

Depot Resets Stryker comm systems



Jeff Gulvas, electronic integrated systems mechanic, configures a Tactical Operations Center Network Maneuver Control System Unit for the 172nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team 3 (Arctic Wolves). Gulvas is a member of the Command, Control and Computer Systems/Avionics Directorate. (Photos by Doug Graver)

by Anthony Ricchiazzi
Editor

The Arctic Wolves are benefiting from a marriage of Reset and equipment replacement for their Tactical Operations Centers.

Tobyhanna Army Depot, working with the program manager for Tactical Operations Centers (PM TOC), is resetting the TOC shelters of the 172nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team 3 (Arctic Wolves), based in Alaska. After Reset work is done, End of Life equipment replacement is carried out.

EOL replacement means the equipment will not be upgraded again, but will be replaced by both new, commercial off-the-shelf equipment and equipment designed specifically for the military.

Stryker is a family of eight-wheel drive combat vehicles. The Stryker Brigade Combat Team combines the capacity for rapid deployment with survivability and tactical mobility. The Stryker vehicle enables the team to maneuver in close and urban terrain, provide protection in open terrain and transport infantry quickly to critical battlefield positions.

Work is being carried out at the depot's Forward Repair Activity in Fort Lewis, Wash.

"Shelters are removed from humvees,



Eric Lutz, electronics mechanic, inspects fiber optics under 400 power magnification prior to certification in a Stryker Tactical Operations Center. Lutz is a member of the Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Directorate.

which are sent to another shop for repair, and our people remove the equipment from the shelters to perform Reset work," said Gean Bechthold, electronic integrated systems mechanic supervisor, Command Control and Computer (C3) Systems Division, C3-Avionics Directorate. "All the equipment is removed and deep cleaned. Then the equipment is repaired or reconditioned to battle-ready condition; there is no painting or other aesthetic work done."

When the equipment is re-integrated, components that have EOL technology are replaced. For example, TOC Network Intercom kits fabricated by SCI and Tobyhanna are installed to improve the intercom systems.

"For the kits, SCI provides the electronics, we provide the mounting bracketry interface system," said Mike McVeigh, electronics engineer, Project Design and Development Division, Production Engineering Division. "The kits were assembled here, and then sent to Fort Lewis. PM TOC provides the electronics to integrate the kits."

Communications between vehicles will be more reliable. "The system being replaced was larger, heavier and use integrated circuitry that was less reliable," McVeigh said. "This equipment is solid state, more user friendly and can be easily integrated with radios such as SINCGARS and telephones. Stryker Soldiers can also integrate the system with laptop computers. They will be able to communicate with other TOCs, including a commander's post. All this increases situational awareness and communications speed."

Fiber optics cables and equipment is also installed. "We swap the Signal Entrance Plate with a new plate fabricated here that has further enhanced capacity and fiber optics cabling already installed," McVeigh said.

Another Reset/upgrade involves Force XXI Battle Command Brigade and Below (FBCB2), which uses terrestrial radios to do the same thing as Blue Force Tracking, only it uses the Enhanced Position Location Reporting System (EPLRS) instead of satellites.

EPLRS is a joint service digital radio that provides digital connection among battlefield computers, allowing field commander's to form a joint network. EPLRS aids in fratricide prevention because it allows weapons platforms to see where other EPLRS are located. The Army uses EPLRS as the "digital backbone" for the six Stryker Brigades. "That part of the mission, plus enhancing Maneuver Control Systems, involves integrating equipment provided by PM TOC," McVeigh said.

Bechthold said they will complete all the hardware installations by March and that Tobyhanna's Technical Development Division will familiarize the Soldiers with the new equipment.

**Warfighters benefit from
hardworking quality team**

Page 3

**Excellence in Electronics:
Around the Depot**

Page 5

**Softball league gears up
for new year**

Page 8

Chaplain shares thoughts on marriage, loss

As most of you know, my beloved wife, Nancy, passed away on Christmas Eve after an eight month battle with leukemia.

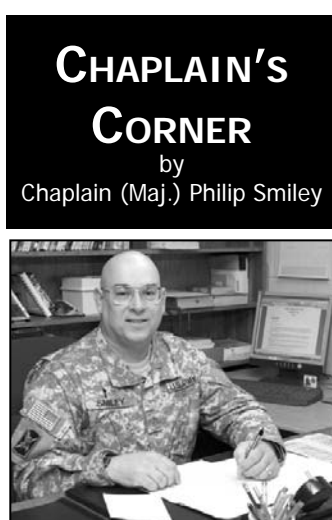
I am going through the painful experience of mourning her loss and learning to live without her. It hurts very much and I miss her terribly, but I have 32 years of wonderful memories and love to cherish, and she is not sick anymore.

I was able to take her home before she died.

She had the comfort of her own bed with all the family gathered around her when she left us. She died peacefully in my arms with the children on each side holding her hands. God is taking care of her now.

I want to thank all of you for the expressions of sympathy and care I received during her illness and after her death. I am so proud and humbled to be part of this family that cares so well and so deeply for its own.

Your expressions of concern, cards and phone calls have made a big difference. I thank you from the bottom of my heart. You will never know how much it has meant to me.



CHAPLAIN'S CORNER
by
Chaplain (Maj.) Philip Smiley

Ours was a loving and affectionate relationship, and the magic and closeness never diminished. I had the privilege of sitting by her hospital bed and comforting her November through December. We reviewed our lives together; laughed, cried, and shared all the experiences of our truly blessed marriage. We have two wonderful, successful children who have picked perfect life partners. We also traveled all over the country and Europe.

I look forward to seeing her again in heaven, more beautiful than ever, where pain, disease, death and sorrow will never intrude again. My faith sustains me, giving me courage, during the hard times as I continue ministering to others. The hope of our future reunion brings joy through the tears.

I am back at work, doing what I love. When you see me around the depot, please treat me no differently than before. I am still the same person, with a positive outlook on life and a good (sometimes twisted) sense of humor. At times I may retreat for solace and reflection; however, when you see me around don't hesitate to stop and chat. That is what I enjoy—rubbing shoulders with all of you.

I have one last thought to share. The relationship I had with my sweet wife, Nancy, was close and special, and I treasure our years together. I adored her. And I am proud to admit it. Because of that, I have no unfinished business with my sweetheart and no regrets.

I do wish we could have taken a cruise, one more walk, or watched another sunset; but we said and did all the important things when they mattered most. She

knew I loved her—I told her everyday. And she loved me completely, in her own sweet way. We even learned to enjoy each other's idiosyncrasies, finding them amusing rather than irritating (which took a while, especially mine, but she was patient.) So I can smile through the tears, and still have joy, and there is no guilt to spoil it. How about you?

Those of you who are married, or have someone special in your life, are you appreciating them now, while you have the chance? Are you sharing your life with them, talking, doing all the special things that bring joy and closeness?

Relationships are wonderful, but they are sometimes fragile and take work to make them exceptional. Do not settle for a ho-hum, average, less than spectacular marriage. Talk. Share. Nurture. Love. Give. Bring home flowers. Say, 'I love you.' Hold hands. Let him or her win the argument. Savor your lives together.

No one ever knows how long they will have together. Take advantage now, while you have the chance. You don't want to go through the heartache of wishing you had said or done something when they needed you.

Thank you for letting me share my thoughts. I hope they are helpful, and if some of you need encouragement in your relationships, I am here to help.

God bless you as you go about your lives each day. Make each one count. Make everyone who shares your life feel special. Take the time to nurture and build up relationships. It is well worth the time and effort.

EMPLOYEE VIEWPOINT

What Martin Luther King brings to my mind

Dear Editor,

Last month, several depot employees were asked "When you hear Dr. Martin Luther King's name, what comes to your mind?" I feel that due to editing, time and space, the responses printed did not give a great American due respect.

Dr. King, born to stable and God-fearing parents, was educated at Morehouse and Crozer Theological Seminary colleges and Boston University. He was a world renowned civil rights leader. In 1964, Dr. King became the youngest person (at the time) to receive the Nobel Peace Prize. With these and other great accomplishments, one of Dr. King's last actions before his death was to help bring attention to sanitation workers who were not being treated equally. A man of his distinction and accomplishments gave his time to the needs of "trash collectors."

Dr. King had been an honored quest of world dignitaries. People of fame

and very high stature joined him in his sufferings to bring attention to the disenfranchisement of people of all races, creeds and national origins. In his "I Have a Dream" address, Dr. King recognized the whites in attendance. But one of his last accomplishments was not raising funds for a political candidate nor promoting a blockbuster movie release – it was in assisting an oppressed people.

Dr. King reminds me of the great leaders that brought attention to the mistreatment and conditions of the Hispanic and Asian farm workers; the great Native-American chiefs that stood up against the genocide of their people. Dr. King reminds me of the organizers against the former "coal barons" of this region.

Not many of us are born with either a silver spoon in our mouths or the golden pamper on our bottoms. Most of us have progressed from some very humbling heritages. Many of our ancestors were

brought to this great nation in ships as slaves. Others chose to come to this country in ships looking for a better life for themselves and opportunity for their families. But some of them ended up in deplorable conditions no matter if they were on the hot plantations picking cotton, or in the cold dark pits of the coal mines. In both situations, profit was the goal; lives and souls were the cost.

So when I think of Dr. King, I think of not only my co-workers, but of other Pennsylvanians whose forefathers were subjected to conditions very similar to those of the slaves, farm workers and Native Americans to achieve that American Dream so that their children could say one day, "Thank God Almighty, we're free at last!"

We are living tomorrow's history!

Monroe Johnson
Edited by Carolyn Briscoe

Soldiers like FCS test systems, don't want to return them

by Fred W. Baker III
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON—Testing for some of the systems slated for the first "spin out" of the Army's Future Combat Systems program has gone well, except for one minor glitch: the Soldiers testing them don't want to give the prototypes back.

"They won't give me back my stuff," joked Maj. Gen. Charles A. Cartwright, program manager for the Future Combat Systems Brigade Combat Team, as he briefed reporters on the progress of the program at the Pentagon.

The FCS is a "family" of a variety of manned and unmanned vehicles, sensors, launch systems and unmanned aerial vehicles. All are connected by a common network with the Soldier. Some

See FCS on Page 7

TOBYHANNA REPORTER

The Tobyhanna Reporter is an authorized, biweekly publication for members of the Department of Defense.

Contents of the Tobyhanna Reporter are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Army. The 6,000 copies are printed by a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. government, under exclusive written contract with Tobyhanna Army Depot.

The editor reserves the right to edit all information submitted for publication. News may be submitted to the Tobyhanna Reporter, Tobyhanna Army Depot, 11 Hap Arnold Boulevard, Tobyhanna, Pa., 18466-5076. (Internal Mail Stop 5076.) Telephone (570) 895-7557 or DISN 795-7557.

The Tobyhanna Reporter staff can also be reached by electronic mail using the following addresses:

Anthony.Ricchiuzzi@tobyhanna.army.mil
Jacqueline.Boucher@tobyhanna.army.mil

Commander, Col. Ron Alberto
Public Affairs Officer, Kevin M. Toolan
Editor, Anthony J. Ricchiuzzi
Assistant Editor, Jacqueline R. Boucher
Photographers, Anthony S. Medici, Steve Grzezdinski



PRINTED ON PARTIALLY RECYCLED PAPER.
PLEASE RECYCLE AS OFFICE QUALITY PAPER.

TEAM
TOBYHANNA
EXCELLENCE IN
ELECTRONICS

Tobyhanna inspectors: The final word on quality

by **Jacqueline Boucher**
Assistant Editor

Nothing leaves Tobyhanna Army Depot without a seal of approval from one or more of the 35 quality inspectors who work in the Quality Improvement Division.

Inspectors carry the burden of responsibility for ensuring repair and overhaul work completed here meets established standards and customers receive a quality product.

"Every piece of equipment that comes to the depot will be examined by several inspectors throughout its stay," said Michael McCawley, electronics mechanic supervisor, Productivity Improvement and Innovation Directorate. "We're the eyes of the customer, making sure requirements are being met."

Inspectors perform over 626,000 inspections annually. From the smallest part to the largest vehicle, inspectors check each phase of work performed by hundreds of employees in shops around the depot.

"The depot work force takes great pride in its work," said Brad Jones, PII director. "Inspectors are entrusted with being the

final safeguard to ensure that every product repaired at Tobyhanna embodies the same consistently high level of quality."

To manage the workload, inspectors fill positions in four disciplines: electronics equipment, machinist work, heavy mobile equipment and finish work.

Machinist work inspectors inspect sheet metal, fabrication and shelter repair. Heavy mobile equipment inspectors inspect all vehicles and generators. Electronics equipment inspectors inspect all electronics shops and finish inspectors work in all the support shops.

"All of our inspectors are first-rate," said McCawley. "They're experienced, highly skilled and knowledgeable."

With a practiced eye, most inspectors perform hundreds of inspections a month. Using years of experience, they monitor and evaluate the work process according to military standards as well as customer requirements in the statement of work.

Inspectors use published documents, drawings and technical manuals to apply strict quality standards to all the equipment at the depot. With the depot's war-related workload increases, inspectors are assigned to all three shifts.

"For the number of work orders we have, our success rate is extremely high. The reject and warranty rate is very low," McCawley said. "It's a reflection of the caliber of the employees in the work force."

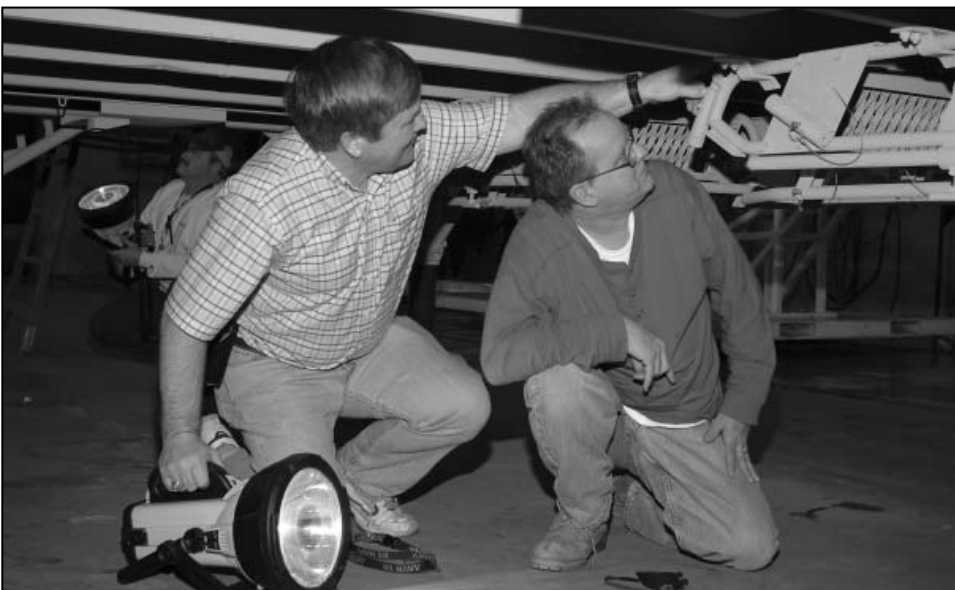
"I've always known quality was the most important thing you could do," he said. "Low cost is one thing, but without a quality product it means nothing. It's good to know the warfighter is getting a quality product that will work properly every time."

Bob Hokien has been working with heavy mobile equipment most of his career. He was a truck driver and loader operator in the Marine Corps, before coming to Tobyhanna in 1971.

Hokien got the job of his dreams (heavy mobile equipment operator) just a few years after starting work at the depot. Then, in the mid-1980s, he moved into the quality division and became the heavy mobile equipment inspector, he explained.



Mike Scalzo, finish inspector, makes sure work performed on a shelter meets standards.



Ed Pitcavage, finish inspector, and Ray Werner check the undercarriage of an electronics repair van for defects. Werner is the sandblaster leader, Systems Integration and Support Directorate.



Bob Hokien, heavy mobile equipment inspector, inspects 5-ton trucks, humvees, electronics repair vans and generators. (Photos by Tony Medici)

"I inspect what I like to call 'heavy iron'—5-ton trucks, humvees, AN/ASM 189 and 190 electronics repair vans and generators," Hokien said.

"The nature of my job keeps me on the move," he said, pointing out that Recap vans are located in Building 23, humvees in Building 14 and generators in Buildings 9 and 10. The bumper to bumper inspections include examining systems, hoses, lights, fluids, belts, brakes and tires on vehicles, as well as conducting a 20-mile road test when necessary.

One particular road test on a new humvee revealed a possible problem with the brakes, Hokien recalled.

"I knew something was wrong right away. Every time I touched the brakes the vehicle would pull hard to one side. After the road test, we discovered the brakes had been installed wrong by the manufacturer."

Hokien believes he and the other inspectors are here to not only monitor the process and requests of our customers, but to ensure that Tobyhanna maintain its reputation for producing a quality product.

"Employees who work here are good, knowledgeable people supporting the warfighter in every possible way," he said. "I try to be honest and fair with the mechanics on the floor; after all we're all working toward the same goal."

Mike Scalzo and Ed Pitcavage are finish inspectors who work in support shops such as sandblast, canvas and leather, carpentry and the main paint shop.

"Somewhere along the way, we're going to see everything that passes through the depot," Pitcavage said. "An inspector's job is vital to ensuring the depot meets the customer's needs and the military member gets the best possible product."

The type of work accomplished on each piece of equipment dictates the type of inspection performed, he explained.

"For instance, if a piece of equipment was sanded and masked," said Scalzo, "we'd check to make sure holes are patched, there are no loose paint chips and the item was washed."

He explained that smaller items like nuts and bolts take little time to inspect; however, a humvee can take up to an hour or longer.

"At times, we also make sure the hundreds of rivets in the ESV vans are covered," Scalzo said.

Both inspectors find their job challenging and said they never know what to expect from day to day.

"I learn something new every day," said Scalzo, who joined the quality division about one year ago. "The tasks may be the same, but the variables surrounding each inspection are always changing. There's a lot more to this job than I ever imagined."

Scalzo joined the Tobyhanna team three years ago, bringing with him a knowledge of quality and inspection processes from previous employment.

Charles Zeisler, electronics equipment inspector, agrees that no two days are alike.

"My area of responsibility covers the AN/TPQ-36 Firefinder systems and components; however, I've inspected in almost every shop that requires inspection at the depot," he said. "Requirements can change daily and at times hourly depending on depot demands." Electronics equipment inspectors inspect all electronics from circuit boards to complete systems.

Zeisler remarked that inspectors should be familiar with all aspects of producing a final system from receipt to shipping, including everything from pressure/vacuum testing, rain testing and system burn tests, and then be able to determine if the results are within specified requirements.

Pitcavage considers the name Tobyhanna to be synonymous with quality and works hard to make sure the customer receives a good product. He's worked at Tobyhanna for seven years and has been an inspector for three years. Tobyhanna's inspectors may not know everything about each item inspected, but they do know everything about the jobs being done within their work area, remarked Pitcavage.

"We have great workers here," he said. "They work hard and take a lot of pride in what they're doing."

Overseas emergency service typical for computer repair branch

by **Anthony Ricchiazzi**
Editor

Technicians from the depot's Computer Service and Repair Branch recently resolved an emergency in Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, Germany.

The main computer server that supports the medical records for all Defense Department hospitals and health clinics in Europe was near full capacity. Pam Burlock, logistics specialist, coordinated with a private shipping company to have a server from National Naval Medical Center, Bethesda, Md., delivered to Tobyhanna.

"When the server arrived, James Searfoss checked it for operational status and proper operating system software," said Bill Chiskowski, electronic integrated systems mechanic.

Searfoss is the lead network

specialist for the mission and has been working with it since 1999.

The branch is part of the Command, Control and Computer/Avionics Directorate's Command, Control and Computer Systems Division.

The server was repacked and delivered to the medical center. It arrived there three days after receiving the initial phone call.

The depot can provide overnight delivery, but usually provides 24-hour response for sites in the continental United States and two to three day response worldwide.

"Many of our jobs are emergency repairs," Searfoss noted. "They require special configurations so they can just be plugged in when they arrive at site."

Searfoss programs the equipment using theories and various test methodologies to ensure proper integrated system operations. If the

computer codes are not configured correctly, the equipment will not work properly.

Branch personnel support the computer networks for every Defense Department hospital and health clinic, about 800, including the clinic here with repair, testing, configuration and upgrades. "We configured 115 server firewalls for Air Force bases in the U.S. and Japan," Searfoss said.

The equipment is produced by commercial manufacturers, who provide components such as firewalls, routers, switches and proxy servers. Because sites are different, hardware and software configurations are unique to the site.

The mission is lead by the Tri-Service Infrastructure Management Program Office, which oversees the DoD electronic health record system.



James Searfoss inspects hard drives for a Defense Department health facility's Internet Web site computer server. Searfoss repairs and tests computer network equipment for all DoD hospitals and health clinics. (Photo by Anthony Ricchiazzi)

Active military meets January recruiting goals

by **Sgt. Sara Wood, USA**
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON—All active components of the military services met or exceeded their recruiting goals for January, the Defense Department announced.

The Army achieved 111 percent of its goal with 9,306 troops; the Air Force, 100 percent of its goal with 2,552 troops; the Navy, 100 percent of its goal with 2,764; and the Marine Corps, 108 percent with 3,403.

Four of six of the reserve components met or exceeded their recruiting goals for January. The Army National Guard, Marine Corps Reserve, Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve achieved more than 100 percent of their goals. The Army Reserve and Navy Reserve lagged, with 99 percent and 93 percent, respectively.

Retention among active and reserve components remained solid. The Marine Corps and Air Force met or exceeded overall retention missions. The Army met 109 percent of its year-to-date mission, and the Navy met 93 percent.

Army National Guard retention was 120 percent of the cumulative goal of 10,289, and Air National Guard retention was 97 percent of its cumulative goal of 3,289. Both the Army and Air Guard are at 99 percent of their target end strength. Losses in all reserve components for December are within acceptable limits, officials said, and indications are that trend will continue into January.

The Army's recruiting numbers may get an added boost in March after the Army launches a traveling, virtual reality exhibit. The Virtual Army Experience is a high-tech, team-based experience designed to immerse visitors in the operational roles of soldiers, according to an Army news release.

The 10,000-square-foot interactive exhibit brings the Army's exceptionally popular computer game, "America's Army: Special Forces (Overmatch)," to a life-size networked world, according to the release. In the Virtual Army Experience, participants employ teamwork, leadership and high-tech equipment as they take part in a hands-on virtual mission to capture a terrorist leader.

The Virtual Army Experience debuts this week at Speedweek in Daytona, Fla., and will deploy to 35 events around the nation.

"The Virtual Army Experience provides visitors with unparalleled insight into today's high-tech Army, in which smart, capable soldiers work within elite teams to master the most complex and demanding situations," said Col. Casey Wardynski, project director for America's Army and originator of the concept for the Virtual Army Experience.

"Upon entering the Virtual Army Experience, visitors meet virtual members of their team – skilled professionals in fields ranging from aviation to communications. From this point forward, visitors gain an appreciation of the degree to which the Army prepares young adults to be confident, skilled and trusted."

Budget proposal includes pay raise, quality-of-life enhancements

WASHINGTON—President Bush's defense budget request for fiscal 2008 includes a 3 percent military pay raise as well as increases for housing, health care and other quality-of-life benefits and programs.

Bush's proposed budget, submitted to Congress this morning, includes \$137 billion in pay, benefits and health care for 2.1 million active- and reserve-component troops and their families.

That includes \$2.1 billion more than this year for military pay, continuing a trend that has boosted military pay an average of 32 percent since 2001. If Congress approves the request, the typical E-6 sergeant or petty officer would see a \$1,099 pay increase, and the average O-3 captain or Navy lieutenant, a \$1,657 hike in fiscal 2008.

The request also includes \$15 billion for the basic allowance for housing, up 4.2 percent over the fiscal 2007 figure, with a continued goal of ensuring no out-of-pocket housing costs for servicemembers.

An additional \$4.3 billion is earmarked for basic allowance for subsistence.

Also included in the budget request is \$2.4 billion for recruiting bonuses and retention, which officials say is critical to sustaining the all-volunteer force.

The proposed budget provides \$38.7 billion for health care for 9.2 million military members and their families. Officials said this funding level is important to sustain one of the world's best health-care programs and to ensure that Tricare remains fiscally sound.

Family housing will receive \$2.9 billion under the proposed budget to support an ongoing privatization trend. This will pay to privatize 2,870 additional family housing units, bringing the total to 194,000 by the end of fiscal 2008, officials said.

The budget request also includes \$10 billion to maintain training centers and base infrastructure, an increase of \$1.9 billion over this year's budget, and \$8.2 billion to implement Base Realignment and Closure plans. These plans, recommended by the 2005 BRAC Commission and approved by Congress, include 25 base closures and 24 major realignments.

Officials said the proposed budget will ensure the finest training, equipment and force protection for those who serve in harm's way while continuing the department's commitment to provide a high quality of life for servicemembers and their families.

The proposed budget, officials said, reaffirms the nation's top military priorities: to prevail in the global war on terrorism; increase combat capability; improve force readiness; development future combat capabilities and improve quality of life for military members and their families.

THANKS

To my friends and coworkers at Tobyhanna,

Thank you for all the get well cards, phone calls and e-mails. Thank you for your prayers, thoughtfulness and concern. They were greatly appreciated.

It is nice to know so many people care. Thank you so much

Dave Alunni
Sheet Metal Fabrication Branch
Systems Integration and Support Directorate

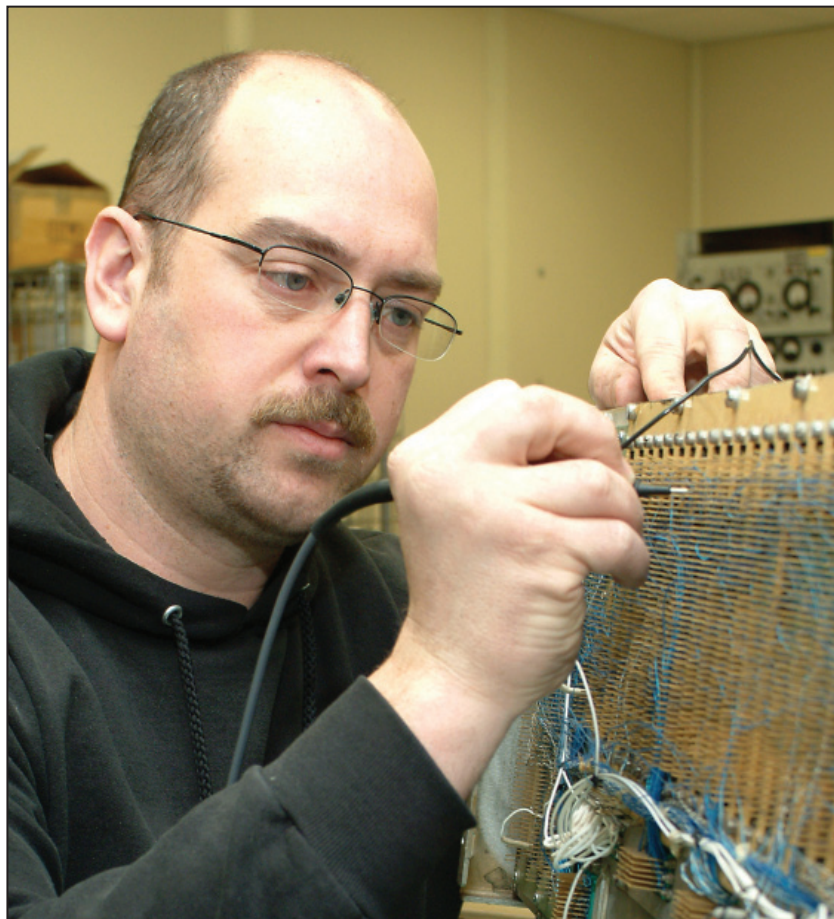
EXCELLENCE IN ELECTRONICS

AROUND THE DEPOT

Photos by Steve Grzedzinski



Shaun McHugh, electronics mechanic, tests a gated oscillator on a AN/GPN-20 test station.



Stephen Justice, electronics mechanic, works on an AN/TPN-19 indicator card cage.



Equipment Specs

The TPN-19 is a complete air traffic control suite capable of rapid deployment and setup in support of the warfighter worldwide. The GPN-22 and GPN-20 are fixed based air traffic control radars used to support Air Force daily flight requirements.



John Galanda, electronics mechanic, installs a microwave link into an AN/TPN-19.



John Rade, electronics mechanic, works on an AN/TPN-19 transmitter.



George Becker, electronics mechanic, repairs a wire harness for a CPU target data computer for the AN/TPN-19 radar systems.

Air Traffic Control (ATCALS) Systems Branch

Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Directorate



The branch's 17 employees overhaul, repair and align the Air Force AN/TPN-19 landing control central, AN/GPN-22 precision approach radar and AN/GPN-20 airport surveillance radar.



From left, Joe Angeli, work leader; Steven Justice, electronics mechanic; John Glatz, electronic integrated systems mechanic; and Paul Holl, work leader, test TPN-19 and GPN-22 subassemblies using individual test stations in the mock up test area.

WELCOME TO THE DEPOT

Name	Title	Organization
Erik Burnetski	Electronics mechanic helper	D/ISR
Andrew Clark	Electronics measurement equipment operator	TMDE
Mark Glose	Electronics worker	D/C3/Avionics
Craig Maurey	Machine tool operator	D/SIS
Michael McGlynn	Wasterwater treatment plant operator	D/PW
Ahmed Osman	Sheet metal worker	D/SIS
Rodney Reed	Equipment cleaner	D/SIS
Ray Reiss	Electronics mechanic	D/C3/Avionics
Jamie Shotto	Equipment cleaner	D/SIS
Kevin Sottile	Electronics mechanic helper	D/ISR
George Stuffick	Sheet metal worker	D/SIS
Donna Williams	Electronics mechanic helper	D/ISR



Gen. George Casey to fill Army's top uniformed position. (Photo by R. D. Ward)

Casey confirmed to lead Army

by Sgt. Sara Wood
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON—The Senate confirmed Army Gen. George W. Casey Jr. to be the next Army chief of staff.

The vote was 83-14 in favor of Casey, who has lead Multinational Force Iraq since July 2004. Casey replaces Army Gen. Peter Schoomaker, who is retiring. President Bush nominated Casey for the Army's top uniformed position Jan. 17, and Casey faced tough Senate confirmation hearings Feb. 1.

Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates has supported Casey's nomination. At a Pentagon media roundtable Jan. 26, Gates noted that Casey spent 30 months on the ground in Baghdad during what was supposed to be an 18-month tour and adjusted tactics to deal with the rise in sectarian violence.

"He was the first choice of the professional military and the secretary of the Army for this position," Gates said. "He served as the vice chief of staff of the Army. So I think he's eminently qualified. I think he's rendered good service. I think he deserves this position."

As commander in Iraq, Casey oversaw the largest sustained ground forces operation by the U.S. military in a generation. After the Golden Mosque in Samarra was bombed in February 2006 and sectarian violence surged, Casey adjusted troop levels and tactics. He was also a key figure in implementing Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki's Baghdad security plan.

In his confirmation hearings before the Senate Armed Services Committee, Casey

said that Bush's new Iraq strategy can work, emphasizing the importance of securing the Iraqi population.

"For the Iraqis to successfully assume and sustain security responsibility, their security forces must emerge as the dominant security forces in the country," Casey said. "To do this, political and militia influence over the security forces must be eliminated, and levels of sectarian violence, particularly in the capital, must be brought down substantially – brought down to the point where the people in Baghdad can be safe in their neighborhoods. This is what we are working toward in Baghdad. It will take time, and the Iraqis do need our help."

Casey also said that the Army has not been overly strained by the war on terror and is still the world's preeminent land power. He said he believes in the Army vision and transformation and that his position in Iraq has given him an opportunity to see the Army at work in the war on terror.

"I see in Iraq every day a splendid Army," he said. "I know that General Schoomaker has problems with the forces yet to deploy and with some of the strategic elements that will deploy later, but from what I see in Iraq, the Army is far from broken."

Today's Soldiers are the best he has seen in his entire career and make a difference in Iraq every day, Casey said. He pledged that U.S. Soldiers and their families, who also make tremendous sacrifices, will be his top priority.

Casey handed over command of Multinational Force Iraq to Army Gen. David Petraeus on Feb. 10.

COMMUNITY BULLETIN

Editor's Note: The Community Bulletin provides an avenue for depot and tenant employees to advertise van or car pools, and for-sale items. Money making items such as rentals and personal business will not be accepted.

Information must be submitted via e-mail to Jacqueline.Boucher@tobyhanna.army.mil, or written items can be mailed to the Public Affairs Office, mail stop 5076.

Submissions must include a name and telephone extension. Only home phone numbers will be published in the Trading Post section.

Ads will be published in four consecutive newspapers. It is the customer's responsibility to update or renew items listed in the Community Bulletin.

For information, call Jacqueline Boucher, X58073.



VAN/CAR POOLS

• **Factoryville, Dalton, Clarks Summit:** 1 opening, 5/4/9, "A" placard, non-smoking, first RDO, call X59343.

• **Tunkhannock, Lake Winola, Clarks Summit:** 2 openings, van, 7 passengers, 5/4/9, "A" placard, contact Bernard Scranta at X58139 or e-mail bernard.scranta@us.army.mil.

• **Jim Thorpe, surrounding areas:** 1 opening, van, 7 passengers, shared driving, 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m., call Pat, X57671.

• **Swoyersville:** 1 opening, available April 1, van, 7 passengers, 5/4/9, house to house pickup, call Joe Belinka, X56229

• **Dunmore, Throop, North Scranton:** 1 opening, van, 7 passengers, non-smoking, 5/4/9, pick up point is the YMCA parking lot, call Jody Oustrich, X57089.

• **Childs, Jessup, Dunmore:** openings, van, non-smoking, 5/4/9, "A" placard, park and rides, call Larry Backman, X59329.

• **Hazleton, Drums:** 1 opening, van, 7 passengers, non-smoking, shared driving, send e-mail to Brian.Sauers@tobyhanna.army.mil.

• **Factoryville, LaPlume, Dalton, Clarks Summit:** 1 opening, "A" placard, non-smoking, 5/4/9, call Tom Talarico, X57081.

• **Stroudsburg:** 1 opening, van, pickup in South Stroudsburg, 7 a.m.-4:30 p.m., send e-mail to john.kulp@tobyhanna.army.mil.

• **Childs, Jessup, Dunmore:** openings, van, non-smoking, 5/4/9, "A" placard, park and rides, call Larry Backman, X59329.

• **Hackettstown, N.J.:** individual seeks car or van pool from NW New Jersey/Interstate 80 area, anyone traveling Interstate 80 West call Robin Lombardo, X57345

• **West Scranton:** 2 openings, van, non-smoking, 7 passengers, Luzerne Street shopping center, 5/4/9, call Jim Mangan or Bill Flynn, X58184.

• **Mountain Top, White Haven:** 1 opening, 7 passengers, van, 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m., meet in Mountain Top at 6:15 a.m. and pass through White Haven at 6:30 p.m., non-smoking, call Janet, X57532.

• **Wilkes-Barre:** 2 openings, van, nonsmoking, 7 passengers, leaves Sam's Club parking lot at 5:45 a.m., 5/4/9, call John Alden, X58349 or X58640.

• **Waymart, Carbondale:** openings, van,

will pick up at Waymart Hotel and Meredith Street., 5/4/9, call Brian or John, X58754.

• **Dunmore, Throop, surrounding areas:** 3 openings, van, 7 passengers, pick up at Holiday Inn in Dunmore, 5/4/9, contact Carmen Trubia, X59156 or send e-mail.



TRADING POST

• **Misc items:** Ladder, 10 foot, Louisville fiberglass, heavy-duty, folding, new over \$300, asking \$200; extension ladder, 36-foot, Louisville fiberglass, new over \$600, asking \$375; Knaack Jobmaster 36 work box, new \$230, asking \$140 OBO; cable, 75 feet, 75ohm, dual RG6, black, \$10; DeWalt DW402 used grinder with case, \$30, call Chuck or Pam, 752-6934.

• **Horse:** AQHA registered gelding sorrel, Western and English flatwork, current on shots and coggins, stands for vet, farrier clips, baths and loads; skilled in parades, 4-H showings and team penning and barrels; loves games and trail rides, experienced rider only, asking \$2,000, call Renee, 842-1511.

• **Misc. items:** electronic hockey table, tallies scores, paid \$299, asking \$125; Casio keyboard with stand, keys light up to teach user how to play, like new, paid \$199, asking \$125; portable basketball hoop, asking \$30; kitchen table, 4 chairs, wooden tabletop and iron legs, \$100; bedroom set, full-size bed, dresser with mirror, chest of drawers, 2 night stands, does not include mattress, asking \$100, call Lisa or Jerry, 876-3053, leave a message.

• **House:** 2-story, 7 rooms, 1 bath, unfinished basement, oil/electric heat, replacement windows, detached 2-car garage, 2 storage buildings, .87 acre, on Route 348, Jefferson Township, North Pocono School District, asking \$189,000, call 689-7692 or 689-4796.

• **Exercise equipment:** Gazelle Freestyle Elite, like new, asking \$150, call Kathy, 894-4265

• **Misc. items:** Pro Form Crosswalker/365s, Sears model, monitors and gauges, asking \$300; exercise bike with arm pulls, Sears model, asking \$150; Hummels, call to make an appointment; and 1800 antique Mason/Hammon foot-pedal reed organ, asking \$1,500 OBO, call Norma, 842-6965.

• **Tires/rims:** 4 Goodyear Eagle LS P195/65R15, mounted on new Chrysler rims (PT Cruiser), less than 25 miles on them, asking \$200, call Jeff Ciaruffoli, 690-8140.



REUSE REDUCE RECYCLE

Petraeus: Iraq, coalition can and must prevail

by Sgt. Sara Wood, USA
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON—Acknowledging the challenges ahead and pledging full effort, Army Gen. David H. Petraeus took the helm of the top U.S. command in Iraq on Feb. 10 in Baghdad.

Petraeus, who was promoted to general just before the change-of-command ceremony, assumed command from Army Gen. George W. Casey Jr., who has led Multinational Force Iraq (MNF-I) since July 2004. Petraeus previously commanded the U.S. Army Combined Arms Center and Fort Leavenworth, Kan. Casey is set to become the next Army chief of staff.

“This morning’s ceremony truly is a humbling experience for me, and the challenges ahead are substantial,” Petraeus said after officially taking command. “The rucksack of responsibility is very heavy. In truth, it is too heavy for any one person to bear, and we will all have to share the burdens and move forward together. If we can do that and if we can help the people of Iraq do likewise, then the prospects for success are good.”

Petraeus thanked Casey for his leadership and sacrifices, and pledged to give the servicemembers and civilians of MNF-I the best leadership and direction he can provide. The coalition’s job in the coming months

will be to work with Iraqi forces to improve security so the Iraqi government can resolve economic issues and improve basic services, he said.

“The way ahead will be hard, and there undoubtedly will be many tough days,” Petraeus said. “As I recently told the members of the United States Senate, however, ‘hard’ is not ‘hopeless’; indeed, together with our Iraqi partners, we can and we must prevail.”

In relinquishing command, Casey noted the progress Iraq has made since it achieved its sovereignty. After the fall of Saddam Hussein, Iraqis were totally dependent on the coalition for security, he said.

Now, through the unwavering support of the Iraqi people and security forces and coalition forces, Iraq is on the verge of taking responsibility for its own security by the end of this year, he said.

“The past that brought us to this point has not been easy, but it has been part of a concerted effort to build an Iraq that can secure, sustain and govern itself,” Casey said. “Freedom isn’t free, and it never has been. It happens through blood, sweat and determination, and you have brought all of those things to this fight.”

Casey said the challenge of overcoming sectarian violence and building a representative government is one the coalition can help with, but that will ultimately rest on the shoulders of the Iraqis themselves. He said he is optimistic about the future of Iraq because

he believes in the inherent desire of all people to live in freedom. The general added that he sees Iraqis taking charge of their future.

Casey also expressed confidence in the competence and professionalism of the men and women of the coalition. “You are the best fighting force in the world, and you bring intellect, drive, compassion, courage and commitment to this mission,” he said. “I see it every day in the conduct of your duties, and I also have growing confidence in the men and women of the Iraqi security forces. And I have no doubt that they will emerge over the coming years as the dominant security forces in Iraq.”

Army Gen. John Abizaid, commander of U.S. Central Command, noted Casey’s many accomplishments while commanding in Iraq, such as facilitating national elections, combat actions, building institutions and developing leaders.

“Thank you for your calm, professional leadership, for your toughness, for your wise counsel to those both above and below your level of command,” Abizaid said to Casey. “Most important, thank you for your patient support of a great people in their new destiny. History will smile upon your accomplishments.”

Abizaid also spoke about the challenges facing Iraq. No nation in the modern age can allow murderers and terrorists to kill without remorse or intimidation, or torture and extortion to rule above the law, he said.



Gen. David H. Petraeus, the new commander of Multi-National Force-Iraq, Feb. 10 at Camp Victory, Iraq. (U.S. Army photo)

Sectarian violence and division have no place in the future of Iraq, a nation that is great because of its ability to overcome ethnic and religious differences, he said.

“Stand together and take your rightful place in the modern world,” Abizaid said to the Iraqi leaders at the ceremony. “The United States and the international community stand ready to assist you, but the choice between violence and prosperity can only be made by you. Let all of us work together to build the new Iraq. Let Iraq claim its rightful place as a nation of strength and justice for all of its citizens.”

FCS, from Page 2



The Future Combat Systems Class I unmanned aerial vehicle can be carried in a backpack and provides dismounted Soldiers with new capabilities in reconnaissance, surveillance and target acquisition capability on the battlefield. (U.S. Army photo)

within the family are marked for an early fielding in an effort to get the technologies to the Soldier as early as fiscal 2008.

Dubbed Experiment 1.1, the testing ran in three phases, starting in July 2006 and finishing this month. Already, some of the systems are garnering rave reviews from the combat veterans testing them. It was the first time that Soldiers collectively employed FCS systems in “live” training and used the system’s computer-based training support package, officials said.

“They loved it,” said Col. Charles C. Bush, FCS division chief. “What the FCS spin-out is all about is getting information down to the Soldier level so they can use it. Experiment 1.1 was designed to test the tools that will get them more tactical information on the battlefield.”

Soldiers tested the initial version of the network operating system, the joint tactical radio system, the tactical and urban unattended ground sensors, the small unmanned ground vehicle, the Class I unmanned aerial vehicle and the non-line-of-sight launch system.

Officials taped responses from the Soldiers testing the equipment and played them at the briefing. The combat veterans extolled the usefulness of the equipment, giving examples of actual fights in Iraq where they could have used the systems.

“I became a big believer,” one NCO said.

“All they need to do is get it out to the Soldier and start training on it,” another said.

One Soldier said the robot vehicles, sensors and the unmanned aerial vehicles help eliminate what he referred to as “The Big ‘What if?’”

Robots can be sent into buildings instead of Soldiers to identify booby traps and insurgents. Unmanned aerial vehicles can be flown over hills and walls, allowing Soldiers to see what is on the other side. The sensors can be placed on flanks and in buildings to detect enemy movement. All are tied to a network that the Soldier can monitor on a screen mounted in his humvee.

Bush said nothing like the tactical and urban sensors are currently fielded at the Soldier level. Some sensors are used by specialized military intelligence units, but that information is not immediately accessible by the Soldier at a squad or platoon level. An earlier prototype of the small unmanned ground vehicle is being used in Iraq to investigate tunnels and possible IEDs, he said.

The Class I unmanned aerial vehicle was tested in Hawaii by 29th Infantry Division Soldiers working through a mission readiness exercise.

“The Soldiers loved that thing,” Bush said.

Its effectiveness was problematic for the trainers, though, because the Soldiers were finding all of the “planted” roadside bombs and taking alternative routes. As a result, they were missing out on intentional training on how to react to an IED.

“It gives them ability to see the enemy before they run into them, and lets them maneuver more effectively,” Bush said.

The FCS systems will also help Soldiers make better, faster decisions on the battlefield. A sensor will let them know, for example, that a vehicle is approaching, and video from the sensor will let the Soldier know if it is a suspicious vehicle.

“It will put capabilities into the hands of Soldiers that they don’t have now,” Bush said.

The bottom line for the combat veterans testing the new systems was that robots, sensors and information on the battlefield translate to more troops coming home alive.

The initial version of the network operating system, the joint tactical radio system, the tactical and urban unattended ground sensors, and the non-line-of-sight launch system are funded for the first spin-out of FCS systems starting in fiscal 2008.

There is no funding currently for the small unmanned ground vehicle and the Class I unmanned aerial vehicle for the first spin-out. They are slated as options in spin-out 2, if funding is available.

61 terrorists captured, weapons seized

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON—Iraqi and coalition forces captured 61 suspected terrorists, destroyed five improvised explosive devices and seized several weapons caches during operations across Iraq last week.

On Feb. 19, special Iraqi army forces, along with coalition forces, destroyed a car rigged with an explosive device and captured seven suspected terrorists during a raid targeting foreign fighters east of Tikrit.

Forces found the car bomb during a search for a suspected terrorist with ties to the foreign fighter facilitator network, officials said. During a raid of the targeted area, coalition forces detained the individual along with six other suspected terrorists.

Further searching the area, ground forces discovered a vehicle on the property was rigged with an IED. After clearing the area of civilians, ground forces destroyed the vehicle.

More searching by ground forces led them to numerous AK-47s, a sniper rifle, two machine guns, a pistol and a footlocker filled with ammunition.

During an operation in southern Baghdad on Monday, special Iraqi army forces, along with coalition advisors, captured two suspected members of a rogue Jaysh Al-Mahdi militia cell.

The Iraqi-led operation was targeting a cell believed responsible for attacks against civilians in the area, officials said. The cell is also suspected of participating in the kidnapping, torture and murder of an Iraqi army officer in December 2006.

Elsewhere in Iraq yesterday, Soldiers of the 2nd Battalion, 14th Infantry Regiment “Golden Dragons,” 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry), found a weapons cache during a routine combat patrol 30 miles southwest of the capital near Radwaniyah.

The cache, which was destroyed during a controlled detonation, consisted of four 2.5-inch rockets and four 60mm mortar rounds.

The Golden Dragon troops also detained a suspected



Spc. Matthew J. Toups and other Soldiers from the 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division, provides security for fellow Soldiers who are searching buildings for weapons and terrorists in Baghdad. (Photo by Petty Officer 1st Class David Hoffman)

terrorist in the same area after they discovered IED-making materials.

Meanwhile, soldiers with the 2nd Battalion, 15th Field Artillery Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry), and the 2nd Battalion, 4th Brigade, 6th Iraqi Army, seized an anti-aircraft heavy machine gun and ammunition during a combat patrol in Mahmudiyah, 20 miles southwest of Baghdad.

The cache consisted of a ZPU-1 anti-aircraft heavy machine gun, 20 30 mm rounds, a tripod and three spare barrels. The weapon was in firing condition and configured for use. The ammunition was destroyed during a controlled detonation conducted by an explosive ordnance team; the weapon was seized.

A two-day operation that began Feb. 16 in Quarghuli Village, southwest of Baghdad, let to the detention of 49 suspected terrorists and the discovery of three IEDs.

Soldiers from the 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment “Polar Bears,” 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry), the 2nd Battalion, 5th Cavalry Regiment and the 4th Battalion, 4th Brigade, 6th Iraqi Army Division, conducted the clearing operation coined “Operation Polar Iron.”

The two-day operation, which consisted of air and ground assaults, was conducted in order to disrupt insurgents believed to be operating in and around Quarghuli Village, long known as a terrorist safe haven, officials said.

During the operation, the soldiers received small-arms fire, but no one was hurt. The suspects were detained for further questioning.

The explosive devices were detonated during a controlled detonation by an explosive ordnance team.

Another IED was detonated by a coalition explosive ordnance team after it was spotted by a patrol southwest of Baghdad Feb. 16.

Soldiers of Company A, 1st Squadron, 89th Cavalry Regiment, “Wolverines,” 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry), spotted the roadside bomb under an overpass while patrolling the major Iraqi highway known as Route Tampa.

The patrol stopped to cordon off the area and a civilian vehicle crossed the cordon.

Soldiers stopped the vehicle and conducted a search, uncovering two locked-and-loaded AK-47s, a 9 mm pistol, a hand grenade and a forged weapons permit. The two men were detained for questioning and the weapons seized. *(Compiled from Multinational Corps Iraq and Multinational Force Iraq news releases.)*

Softball league readies for 2007, looks for history

**by George Kofira
Softball League Commissioner**

Snow may be covering the diamond, but the Noontime Softball League is active.

The Rules Committee is planning on meeting at the end of February to review rules and discuss any proposed changes for the upcoming season. The league would like to see more men and women involved in Noontime Softball and hopes to field at least eight teams.

If individuals want to play and don't know who to contact in their area, they can contact me, X58465. I need the following information: Name, office/branch (with phone extension), field position, level of play and experience (excellent, good, fair – high school, college, local league experience).

The league will provide a list of players that the teams can pick from to complete their rosters.

League schedule for 2007:

February: Rules committee meeting.

March: Manager and assistant managers meeting for all teams.

April: Practice month with fixed days and times for practice during the month.

May: League play begins with two games a day on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. First game is at 11:30 a.m., second game at noon.

July: Homerun Derby.

August: Final month of play. Schedules are adjusted so an equal number of games are played by each team against other teams. Playoff teams and order of play are determined.

September: Playoffs start the day after Labor Day.

The league would like to thank everyone involved for the great condition of the field last year and the improvements that were made to ensure a safe season.

In particular, we acknowledge and thank James Hirschler, Public Works Directorate, who for the past two decades has taken care of the field and directed many safety and aesthetic improvements. Under his direction, the field has been transformed into a first-class softball facility.

The league is also producing a history of the league and asks for your help. Any information concerning the beginnings of the league in the mid 60's to early 70's would be greatly appreciated. Any memories and stories would also be appreciated.

We are most interested in the names of individuals who were instrumental in starting the league. Certainly a name that comes to mind is Stanley Hodakowski, who passed away Jan. 9. “Big Sta,” as he was known here, is credited with starting the league sometime in the early 70's.



Softball league leaders are preparing for the 2007 season. (Photo by Steve Grzezdzinski)

League officers and Committees:

Commissioner George Kofira, X58465.

Assistant Commissioner Tom Musso X56625.

Assistant Commissioner Jason Menago, X59968.

Grounds committee: Marty Salitis, James Druby and George Kofira.

Rules Committee: Jack Andrejko, Tom Baldacci, Guy Nese, Tom Musso, Ed Toth, Jason Menago and John Jones.

Umpire Committee: Tom Musso, Tom Baldacci and Joseph Hall.

Score keeper, stats and scheduling: Jason Menago.